

EXHIBIT 3

Richard Woodruff, M.D.

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UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF WEST VIRGINIA
CHARLESTON DIVISION

IN RE: ETHICON, INC.
PELVIC REPAIR SYSTEMS
PRODUCTS LIABILITY
LITIGATION

MDL NO. 2327

DARLA FLOWERS,

Plaintiff,

vs.

Case No.

2:13-cv-6764

ETHICON, INC., et al.,

Defendants.

- - - - - /
- - -

December 13, 2013

- - -

Videotaped deposition of
RICHARD WOODRUFF, MD, held at Safety
Harbor Resort & Spa, 105 North Bayshore
Drive, Safety Harbor, Florida, commencing
at 9:42 a.m., on the above date before
Rhonda Hall-Breuwet, RMR, CRR, FPR, CLR,
Realtime Systems Administrator

- - -

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12

VIDEOGRAPHER:

13 RON FLEMING

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1 Flowers, plaintiff, versus Ethicon,
2 defendants."

3 Do you see that?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Okay. Do you understand
6 that Ethicon is the manufacturer of the
7 Prolift with device?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And do you understand that
10 the Prolift anterior device is the device
11 that you implanted into Darla Flowers in
12 2007?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And you may observe this
15 from the caption, but you understand that
16 Darla Flowers is not suing you or
17 bringing any sort of legal action against
18 you whatsoever?

19 A. Yes, I understand that.

20 Q. And do you understand that
21 Darla is not alleging that you did
22 anything wrong in this case?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Let's go to page 3, which is
25 Exhibit A. I'm going to cover a couple

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1 that a risk might happen and the time
2 spent counseling with a patient?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. With regard to the severity
5 of a risk and how severe the risk might
6 be, is there some correlation between the
7 amount of time spent counseling with a
8 patient?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And is it true to say that
11 the more severe the risks can be, the
12 more you'd want to spend time counseling
13 with a patient about the risks?

14 MS. METZGER: Object to
15 form.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 BY MR. PRICE:

18 Q. Let me talk to you about the
19 FDA for just a minute.

20 In your experience as -- and
21 strike that.

22 First, you have some
23 experience -- I mean, this may be fairly
24 obvious, but just to get some background
25 here, you obviously have some experience

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1 implanting medical devices into patients.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. And when -- during your
4 practice, when you were implanting
5 medical devices into patients, did you
6 have some understanding that the medical
7 devices had been looked at by a
8 governmental agency?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Did you have some
11 understanding of the FDA and what the FDA
12 did?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And just generally speaking,
15 explain for the jury, what was your
16 understanding of what the FDA does with
17 regard to medical devices?

18 A. Well, the FDA, to my
19 knowledge, looks at the data presented by
20 the manufacturers and approves or
21 disapproves the product.

22 Q. And during your practice, if
23 a sales representative or otherwise some
24 other company representative presented a
25 medical device to you, what was your

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1 presumption as it pertains to FDA
2 clearance or approval?

3 MS. METZGER: Object to
4 form.

5 THE WITNESS: My assumption
6 was that it had been approved.

7 BY MR. PRICE:

8 Q. And why would a doctor
9 presume that if a medical device being
10 presented by a sales representative had
11 been -- I'm sorry. I lost my train of
12 thought.

13 As a doctor, a sales
14 representative presents a medical device
15 to you, it may seem obvious, but why
16 would you presume that it's cleared by
17 the FDA?

18 MS. METZGER: Object to
19 form.

20 THE WITNESS: Well, I'm
21 going to elaborate on this.

22 BY MR. PRICE:

23 Q. Sure.

24 A. I can't answer it with a yes
25 or no.

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1 Q. Sure.

2 A. We would have -- and this is
3 not a device, but medications, you know,
4 we would have pharmaceutical reps come in
5 and they would tell us, "We've got a new
6 product in the pipeline. Can't talk
7 about it yet because it's not FDA
8 approved." And they wouldn't tell us
9 anything -- they would say it's -- like a
10 new birth control pill. "Can't talk
11 about it yet because's not FDA approved.
12 It's going to be exciting, but can't say
13 any more about it until we get FDA
14 approval."

15 So they wouldn't tell us
16 anything more than just "new birth
17 control pill; it's going to be exciting,
18 and we'll tell you about it as soon as we
19 get FDA approval."

20 So, you know, we were -- we
21 would assume that products that were
22 presented to us were FDA approved.

23 Q. And to your knowledge, were
24 you ever presented a product or
25 medication that was not approved by the

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1 FDA that you then used in a patient?

2 A. Well, certainly not to my
3 knowledge.

4 Q. And if the representative
5 presented to you a product and told you
6 that it had not been cleared by the FDA,
7 what would your reaction be?

8 MS. METZGER: Object to
9 form.

10 THE WITNESS: Well, I don't
11 think I would use something that
12 hadn't been cleared by the FDA.

13 BY MR. PRICE:

14 Q. Let's talk about your
15 experience with the Prolift device
16 specifically.

17 When was the first time that
18 you can recall that you heard of this
19 Prolift device?

20 A. Probably sometime during
21 the -- either the summer or fall of 2005.

22 Q. Do you recall what method it
23 was presented to you?

24 A. I think the sales rep
25 brought information around.

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1 Q. And does Exhibit 9 look
2 familiar to you?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. And describe what Exhibit 9
5 is.

6 A. It's the -- you referred to
7 it as the IFU. I'm not sure what that
8 stands for, but it's the product insert.

9 Q. It's the documentation that
10 comes with the --

11 A. With the kit.

12 Q. -- with the Prolift kit?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And it would be your
15 practice to review the documentation
16 contained within the Prolift kit?

17 A. Not every time because it's
18 redundant, but the first time, second
19 time. After that, you know it.

20 Q. Sure. And occasionally if
21 you needed to refresh any of the
22 information contained within the
23 instructions for use of the product
24 insert, would you have the product insert
25 and review it in case you needed to

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1 refresh your recollection on anything?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. But, indeed, you have

4 before --

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. -- read this and --

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. -- read it completely before

9 using the Prolift --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- device?

12 I want to point your

13 attention to a few specific things.

14 We're not going to sit and read the whole

15 thing today, but I want to point out to

16 you a few things and get some

17 clarification.

18 Let's go to the page after

19 the first page, which, for the record, is

20 ETH.MESH.02341523.

21 Are you on that page,

22 Doctor?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. It says, "Please read all

25 information carefully."

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1 Do you see that?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Did you indeed, at least
4 before you started implanting Prolift
5 devices, read the information in the IFU
6 correctly?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Carefully. Excuse me.

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. And the third paragraph
11 says, "Training on the use of the
12 Gynecare Prolift." Do you see where it
13 says that?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. It says, "Training on the
16 use of the Gynecare Prolift pelvic floor
17 repair systems is recommended and
18 available. Contact your company sales
19 representatives to arrange for this
20 training."

21 Did I read that correctly?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And did you indeed follow
24 through and receive training on the
25 Gynecare Prolift as is instructed here?

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Under "Indications," can you
3 read the indications section where it
4 says "The Gynecare Prolift total"? Do
5 you see where I'm reading?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Read with me. "The Gynecare
8 Prolift total anterior and posterior
9 pelvic repair systems are indicated for
10 tissue reinforcement and long-lasting
11 stabilization of fascial structures of
12 the pelvic floor and vaginal wall
13 prolapse where surgical treatment is
14 intended either as mechanical support or
15 bridging material for the fascial
16 defect."

17 Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And referring specifically
20 to Darla Flowers' case, did you use the
21 Prolift in Darla Flowers' case as is
22 indicated in this instruction for use?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. And it talks about some
25 components here. To be specific, in

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1 patients?

2 MS. METZGER: Object to
3 form.

4 THE WITNESS: We would have
5 spent more time on that.

6 BY MR. PRICE:

7 Q. What about 10 percent? Is
8 that high enough for you? Would it have
9 altered the way you discuss the risk of
10 erosion or extrusion with your patients?

11 A. I think we would have spent
12 a little more time talking about it, yes.

13 Q. What about any risks of
14 sexual dysfunction or dyspareunia
15 associated with any of these risks?

16 MS. METZGER: Object to
17 form.

18 BY MR. PRICE:

19 Q. Is it fair to say that in
20 2007 you had no understanding of any
21 sexual dysfunction risk associated with
22 the Prolift device?

23 A. That was an issue that
24 wasn't discussed in any of the training
25 that I went to, and at least in the

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1 initial follow-up that I had with
2 patients in the first two years, there
3 was actually improvement in sexual
4 function. It was only when I started
5 seeing erosions later that it became an
6 issue.

7 Q. And the issue of the risk of
8 sexual dysfunction and dyspareunia, if a
9 company like Ethicon had the knowledge of
10 an increased risk of that, would you like
11 to know that as a physician?

12 MS. METZGER: Object to
13 form.

14 THE WITNESS: Yes.

15 BY MR. PRICE:

16 Q. Would you then pass that
17 information on to your patients?

18 A. Yes.

19 MS. METZGER: Object to
20 form.

21 BY MR. PRICE:

22 Q. If there were any warnings
23 here in the adverse reactions section
24 that discussed sexual dysfunction,
25 including dyspareunia, would you have

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1 spent time talking to your patients about
2 that risk?

3 MS. METZGER: Object to
4 form.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 BY MR. PRICE:

7 Q. Would you weigh the risk of
8 sexual dysfunction, including
9 dyspareunia, against any perceived
10 benefits of the Prolift device?

11 MS. METZGER: Object to
12 form.

13 THE WITNESS: Yes.

14 BY MR. PRICE:

15 Q. The last -- after
16 erosion/exclusion, it discusses scarring
17 that results in implant contraction. Do
18 you see that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Did you have any
21 understanding as to the rate of implant
22 contraction that may occur after
23 implantation of the Prolift device?

24 MS. METZGER: Object to
25 form.

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1 THE WITNESS: Again, I don't
2 think that was discussed.

3 BY MR. PRICE:

4 Q. It's correct to say, you
5 knew that you needed to implant the
6 device with some correct tension? Is
7 that fair?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. And the tension that you
10 placed in Darla Flowers' case was based
11 on your experience in implanting other
12 Prolift devices?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. And before you started
15 implanting other Prolift devices, did you
16 learn how to implant Prolift devices from
17 training by Ethicon?

18 A. Yes. And, actually, it's
19 more proper to say "tension-free," not
20 "tension."

21 Q. Let me ask you about any
22 risk of mesh degradation. Were you ever
23 told by Ethicon that the Prolift mesh
24 posed a possibility of mesh degradation?

25 MS. METZGER: Object to

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1 form.

2 THE WITNESS: No.

3 BY MR. PRICE:

4 Q. Were you ever told that the
5 mesh could degrade in the Prolift to the
6 point that the mesh loses structural
7 integrity?

8 MS. METZGER: Object to
9 form.

10 THE WITNESS: No.

11 BY MR. PRICE:

12 Q. What about mesh bunching in
13 the vagina? Did you ever hear about the
14 risk of mesh bunching in the vagina from
15 Ethicon?

16 MS. METZGER: Object to
17 form.

18 THE WITNESS: No.

19 BY MR. PRICE:

20 Q. What about mesh curling in
21 the vagina? Did you ever hear any
22 warnings of mesh curling in the vagina
23 from Ethicon?

24 MS. METZGER: Same
25 objection.

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1 THE WITNESS: No.

2 BY MR. PRICE:

3 Q. What about mesh contraction?
4 Did you ever hear about any risks of mesh
5 contraction after implantation of the
6 Prolift, from Ethicon?

7 MS. METZGER: Object to
8 form. He just testified that that
9 was in the IFU.

10 MR. PRICE: I'll strike
11 that. Actually, we did cover mesh
12 contraction just a moment ago. I
13 would dispute that he testified
14 that that was in the IFU, but I'll
15 strike that. We did discuss
16 contraction.

17 BY MR. PRICE:

18 Q. What about mesh banding? Do
19 you have an idea of what mesh banding is?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. And how do you have an idea
22 as to what mesh banding is?

23 A. Well, that's when you can
24 feel one of the arms on pelvic exam.

25 Q. Are you talking about after

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1 implantation?

2 A. After the implantation, yes.

3 When you see a patient back for a routine
4 exam, you can feel one of the arms.

5 Q. Was it ever discussed with
6 you by Ethicon that there might be a
7 banding effect of the arms after
8 implantation of the Prolift mesh?

9 MS. METZGER: Object to
10 form.

11 THE WITNESS: No.

12 BY MR. PRICE:

13 Q. What about permanent nerve
14 pain? Did Ethicon ever warn you that
15 there might be permanent nerve pain
16 associated with implantation of the
17 Prolift device?

18 MS. METZGER: Same
19 objection.

20 THE WITNESS: Not that I
21 recall.

22 BY MR. PRICE:

23 Q. If you recall -- if Ethicon
24 were to tell you that there could be
25 permanent nerve pain associated with the

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1 Prolift device, do you think that would
2 stand out to you?

3 A. I would think so, yes.

4 Q. Let's talk about some of
5 Darla Flowers' medical charts. I'm going
6 to -- do you mind if we go off the record
7 for just a moment?

8 A. Sure.

9 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time
10 is 11:49 a.m. Off the record.

11 (Off the record from 11:49
12 a.m. to 11:59 a.m.)

13 THE VIDEOGRAPHER: The time
14 is 11:59 a.m. On the record.

15 (Document was marked as
16 Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 10 for
17 identification.)

18 (Document was marked as
19 Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 11 for
20 identification.)

21 BY MR. PRICE:

22 Q. Welcome back, Dr. Woodruff.
23 For the record, you have in front of you
24 Exhibit 10 and Exhibit 11. Correct?

25 A. Yes.

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1 A. 13, yeah.

2 Q. Exhibit 13 is the FDA's
3 July 2011 warning. Have you ever seen
4 Exhibit 13 before?

5 A. Yesterday.

6 Q. Okay. So when I showed it
7 to you yesterday when we sat down and
8 met?

9 A. Yes. There was after I
10 retired.

11 Q. Yeah. So you -- did you --
12 you didn't have an opportunity to read it
13 until yesterday because you -- you've
14 been retired?

15 A. Correct.

16 Q. So is it fair to say that
17 your review of literature has slowed down
18 since you've retired?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And after reading this --
21 after I showed it to you yesterday, did
22 you have any impressions regarding this
23 FDA 2011 announcement?

24 A. No. The important thing I
25 think is that the complications are not

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1 that rare.

2 Q. As a physician back in 2007,
3 if you would have read an announcement
4 that said complications associated with
5 transvaginal mesh repair of prolapse are
6 not rare, would that have affected the
7 way you counseled your patients?

8 MS. METZGER: Object to
9 form.

10 THE WITNESS: Yes.

11 BY MR. PRICE:

12 Q. Would you have spent more
13 time talking about complications with
14 your patients?

15 MS. METZGER: Object to
16 form.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 BY MR. PRICE:

19 Q. Would you have specifically
20 spent more time talking about the
21 complications of erosion?

22 MS. METZGER: Object to
23 form.

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

25 * * *

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1 BY MR. PRICE:

2 Q. Would you have spent more
3 time talking about the complications of
4 sexual interference such as dyspareunia,
5 painful intercourse?

6 MS. METZGER: Object to
7 form.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes.

9 BY MR. PRICE:

10 Q. Dr. Woodruff, would you --
11 would you question the integrity of a
12 medical device that had not been approved
13 by the FDA?

14 MS. METZGER: Object to
15 form.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 BY MR. PRICE:

18 Q. If you found out that a
19 medical device had not been approved by
20 the FDA, would you want the manufacturer
21 to do more research before you -- before
22 you used the product?

23 MS. METZGER: Same
24 objection.

25 THE WITNESS: Yes.

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1 BY MR. PRICE:

2 Q. Would you want the product
3 to be FDA-approved before you used it?

4 A. Yes.

5 MS. METZGER: Object to
6 form.

7 BY MR. PRICE:

8 Q. Do you have an understanding
9 that the Prolift device was not actually
10 cleared by the FDA until after you
11 implanted it in Darla Flowers?

12 MS. METZGER: Object to
13 form.

14 THE WITNESS: I know that
15 now.

16 BY MR. PRICE:

17 Q. You didn't know that back in
18 2007 when you implanted it?

19 A. No.

20 MS. METZGER: Object to
21 form.

22 BY MR. PRICE:

23 Q. Let me show you briefly
24 Exhibit 17 -- excuse me -- Exhibit 14.

25 A. 14.

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1 (Document was marked as

2 Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 14 for
3 identification.)

4 BY MR. PRICE:

5 Q. This is a public record.

6 And I just want to point your attention
7 to some of the dates in this record.

8 It's a -- take a look and skim through
9 that. I presume you've not seen that
10 document before?

11 MS. METZGER: I'm going to
12 object to the use of these at the
13 deposition because I know that
14 we've produced them in some form
15 to you. Are you representing that
16 you got these through a Freedom of
17 Information Act request?

18 MR. PRICE: I'm representing
19 that I got them through public
20 information sources. This
21 particular copy that I'm showing
22 you is not -- I'm not saying that
23 that's an Ethicon document.

24 MS. METZGER: Are you
25 willing to represent where it is

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1 that you got the copy of the
2 document that you're showing the
3 doctor?

4 MR. PRICE: Sure. I got it
5 online. If my recollection serves
6 me correctly, I got it from the
7 FDA Web site. But --

8 MS. METZGER: Okay.

9 MR. PRICE: My
10 recollection's not necessarily
11 100 percent, but that's my best
12 recollection sitting here today.

13 MS. METZGER: To the extent
14 that either of these two documents
15 are not publicly available -- and
16 I haven't checked your source, so
17 I don't know whether they're
18 obtainable from that source --
19 then I object to the use at the
20 deposition because they weren't
21 previously identified to us as
22 required by PTO 38, and move to
23 strike any testimony related to
24 these documents.

25 MR. PRICE: And, Dr.

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1 Woodruff, you can go ahead -- the
2 source -- I mean, the PTO 38
3 provision that you're referencing,
4 is that the Ethicon production
5 provision?

6 MS. METZGER: It's the 48
7 hours in advance of a treating
8 physician deposition, you need to
9 disclose to us the documents that
10 you're going to use at the
11 deposition.

12 MR. PRICE: Right. Right.
13 And for the record, this -- this
14 particular copy that I'm using is
15 not a Ethicon-produced document.
16 I got it through public sources.

17 MS. METZGER: I will just
18 continue my objection. If it
19 turns out to be an issue, we'll
20 deal with it.

21 MR. PRICE: Sure.

22 BY MR. PRICE:

23 Q. Have you had a chance to
24 look through that, Doctor?

25 A. Yes.

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1 Q. I'm directing your attention
2 to the third page, the Department of
3 Health and Human Services as the cover
4 page. The recipients of this letter
5 appears to be Ethicon, Inc.; is that
6 correct?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. And Ethicon, Inc., is the
9 manufacturer of the Prolift device?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you see there's a date
12 stamp there, May 15th, 2008?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Do you see that? And under
15 the "re" section, R-E, that gives
16 trade/device names. Gynecare Prolift, do
17 you see that name there?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. It says, "Gynecare Prolift
20 Total, Anterior, and Posterior Pelvic
21 Floor Repair Systems."

22 Do you see that?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Are these repair systems
25 repairs systems that you were using in

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1 Q. Correct?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. So it's fair to state that
4 under your standards as a doctor, you
5 would not use a device that was not
6 FDA-approved?

7 MS. METZGER: Object to --

8 BY MR. PRICE:

9 Q. Is that fair?

10 MS. METZGER: Object to form
11 to the continued leading nature of
12 these questions.

13 THE WITNESS: I would have
14 preferred that it would have been
15 FDA-approved.

16 BY MR. PRICE:

17 Q. Do you understand that in
18 2012 the -- strike that.

19 Do you understand that after
20 the FDA's notification in 2011, that the
21 FDA approached Ethicon and asked them to
22 do further studies on the Prolift
23 product?

24 MS. METZGER: Object to
25 form.

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1 THE WITNESS: Yes.

2 BY MR. PRICE:

3 Q. How did you obtain that
4 understanding?

5 A. You informed me of that
6 yesterday.

7 Q. Did -- were you surprised to
8 hear that, that they were asked by the
9 FDA to do 522 studies?

10 A. No.

11 Q. And why does that not
12 surprise you?

13 A. Well, the FDA is looking for
14 evidence that the risk-benefit ratio with
15 that product is reasonable.

16 Q. Do you yourself question the
17 risk-benefit ratio of the Prolift
18 product?

19 MS. METZGER: Object to
20 form.

21 THE WITNESS: In general.
22 I'm not going to limit it to
23 Prolift. I think that there still
24 is a place for mesh-enhanced
25 vaginal surgery.

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1 BY MR. PRICE:

2 Q. But the indications for that
3 surgery, the risks and benefits must
4 be --

5 A. Balanced.

6 MS. METZGER: I'm going to
7 object to form.

8 BY MR. PRICE:

9 Q. The risks and benefits must
10 be balanced?

11 MS. METZGER: Same
12 objection.

13 THE WITNESS: Yes.

14 BY MR. PRICE:

15 Q. I'm handing you what's been
16 marked as Exhibit 15.

17 (Document was marked as
18 Plaintiff's Exhibit Number 15 for
19 identification.)

20 BY MR. PRICE:

21 Q. Take a look at Exhibit 15.
22 Have you seen that letter before?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did I show you that letter
25 when we met?

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1 A. Yes.

2 Q. It was the first time you
3 had seen that letter, right?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did you have a chance to
6 take a look at it and read through it?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. I want to ask you a couple
9 questions about it.

10 On the second page of the
11 letter -- well, actually, let me back up.

12 The first page of the letter
13 begins a section that says, "Accordingly,
14 under Section 522 of the act, we are
15 ordering you to conduct a postmarket
16 surveillance study of your device to
17 address our questions below."

18 Do you see that?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Now, these appear to be
21 questions asked by the Department of
22 Health and Human Services to Ethicon; is
23 that correct?

24 A. Yes.

25 MS. METZGER: Object to

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1 form.

2 BY MR. PRICE:

3 Q. The second one says, "What
4 are the rates associated with each of the
5 following adverse events through 36
6 months post-implant: mesh exposure in
7 the vagina, mesh erosion into another
8 organ, pelvic pain, infection, de novo
9 dyspareunia, vaginal shortening, vaginal
10 scarring, de novo vaginal bleeding,
11 atypical vaginal discharge, fistula
12 formation, de novo voiding dysfunction
13 (including de novo incontinence),
14 neuromuscular problems (including groin
15 and leg pain), revision surgery,
16 recurrent prolapse."

17 Do you see that?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. And the FDA appears to be
20 asking, "What are the rates associated
21 with these complications?" right?

22 MS. METZGER: Object to
23 form.

24 THE WITNESS: Yes.

25 * * *

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1 BY MR. PRICE:

2 Q. And as a practicing doctor,
3 would it be important for you to
4 understand what are the rates of these
5 complications of the devices that you're
6 implanting into your patients?

7 MS. METZGER: Object to
8 form.

9 THE WITNESS: Yes.

10 BY MR. PRICE:

11 Q. And if Ethicon had the
12 ability to obtain that information before
13 marketing the Prolift device, would you
14 have liked to know that information when
15 you were discussing the risks and
16 benefits with your patients?

17 MS. METZGER: Object to
18 form.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 BY MR. PRICE:

21 Q. The third question is, "What
22 is the quality of life (including sexual
23 function) for women who have received
24 this device at 6 months, 12 months, 18
25 months, 24 months, and 36 months

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1 post-surgery?"

2 Do you see that?

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Is that the type of question
5 that you would like to -- strike that.

6 If Ethicon had the ability
7 to find that information, would you like
8 to know that information before you
9 implanted the Prolift into your patients?

10 MS. METZGER: Object to
11 form.

12 THE WITNESS: Yes.

13 BY MR. PRICE:

14 Q. Is the quality of life,
15 including sexual function, the type of
16 information that you would consider in a
17 risk-benefit analysis for your patients?

18 MS. METZGER: Object to
19 form.

20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 BY MR. PRICE:

22 Q. Number 5, "Among patients
23 with resurgery within 36 months after
24 transvaginal pelvic organ prolapse" --
25 strike that. Reading problems today.

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1 "Among patients with
2 resurgery within 36 months after initial
3 transvaginal pelvic prolapse surgery with
4 the mesh:

5 "a. what are the rates of
6 adverse events and what is the quality of
7 life during the . . . following
8 resurgery?"

9 Do you see that?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And if resurgery was a
12 common occurrence after implantation of
13 the Prolift device, would you like to
14 know that, as a doctor?

15 MS. METZGER: Object to
16 form.

17 THE WITNESS: Yes.

18 BY MR. PRICE:

19 Q. Would you like to know the
20 rates of adverse events as it pertains to
21 any resurgeries that had occurred with
22 the Prolift device?

23 MS. METZGER: Object to
24 form.

25 THE WITNESS: Could you

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1 rephrase that?

2 BY MR. PRICE:

3 Q. Sure. In 2007, if Ethicon
4 was in a position to know how many
5 resurgeries had occurred with the Prolift
6 device, would you like to know that
7 before implanting the Prolift into Darla
8 Flowers?

9 MS. METZGER: Object to
10 form.

11 THE WITNESS: Yes.

12 BY MR. PRICE:

13 Q. You would take into
14 consideration whether or not Darla would
15 need subsequent resurgeries for the
16 Prolift device, wouldn't you?

17 A. Yes.

18 MS. METZGER: Object to
19 form.

20 BY MR. PRICE:

21 Q. If after being asked this
22 information by the FDA, if Ethicon then
23 decided to withdraw the Prolift product
24 instead of following through with the
25 FDA's 522 studies, would that cause you

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1 intended to use at the deposition.

2 In the e-mail, I said I
3 didn't guarantee I was going to
4 use all these documents, but this
5 was on the list of those
6 documents. So that's just -- I
7 wanted to put that on the record.

8 BY MR. PRICE:

9 Q. So you have Exhibit 16 in
10 front of you?

11 A. I do.

12 Q. Okay. And when we left off,
13 we were talking about the 522 studies of
14 Ethicon. So let's flip to the e-mail.
15 It starts on page ETH.MESH.05603796.

16 Are you there?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. There's an e-mail among two
19 people among -- well, actually among
20 several people. I want to point your
21 attention to the verbiage "As I read
22 Section 10 of this guidance." Are you
23 with me?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. It says, "As I read Section

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1 10 of this guidance, a company may not
2 have to perform the 522 study if the
3 product is withdrawn from the market.
4 I'm not sure if the product can be
5 withdrawn after the 522 order is received
6 or if the option not to conduct the study
7 only applies to products that were
8 withdrawn before the issuance of the 522
9 order.

10 "We will need to get further
11 clarity on our options going forward."

12 Do you see that?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Now, if one of the
15 considerations of Ethicon was to opt to
16 not going forward with the 522 study
17 instead of following through with the
18 FDA's request, would it raise a concern
19 with you as to the integrity of the
20 product that you had used before?

21 MS. METZGER: Object to
22 form. And over my previous
23 objection that if indeed this
24 document had not been previously
25 produced to us, I object to its

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1 use and move to strike any
2 testimony regarding it.

3 But over those objections,
4 Doctor, please answer if you can.

5 MR. PRICE: Okay. And Kim,
6 if you wouldn't mind, I can -- for
7 the rest of the questions on this
8 document, we can do a running
9 objection --

10 MS. METZGER: Running
11 objection?

12 MR. PRICE: -- for that.

13 MS. METZGER: That's fine.

14 Thank you.

15 I'll also object to the form
16 of the question.

17 BY MR. PRICE:

18 Q. Do you need me to repeat the
19 question after that?

20 A. Please.

21 Q. Okay. And this may not be
22 the exact rephrasing, but basically the
23 question is: If Ethicon, after being
24 asked by the FDA to perform 522 studies,
25 considered not going forward with the 522

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1 studies and the information asked with
2 regard to patient safety, would you have
3 some concerns about the Prolift product's
4 integrity?

5 MS. METZGER: Object to
6 form.

7 THE WITNESS: Well, it would
8 raise a question, yes.

9 BY MR. PRICE:

10 Q. Dr. Woodruff, we've talked
11 about some of the complications and risks
12 of the Prolift procedure in 2007 versus
13 what you know today.

14 Do you recall our general
15 discussion of that?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you also recall we
18 discussed that you heightened some of
19 your discussions with patients with
20 regard to risk and benefits even after
21 the FDA's 2008 warning; is that accurate?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And assuming you were
24 practicing today, after reading the
25 July 2011 warning, would you likely

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1 heighten your risk-benefit discussion
2 even more after reading that?

3 MS. METZGER: Object to
4 form.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 BY MR. PRICE:

7 Q. So knowing what we know
8 today, going back in 2007, if you would
9 have had that information with regard to
10 risks of erosion, risks of sexual
11 complications, and any other risks that
12 you were not aware of, would you go back
13 and have a heightened discussion with
14 Darla Flowers about the risks and
15 benefits of the Prolift device?

16 MS. METZGER: Object to
17 form.

18 THE WITNESS: Yes.

19 BY MR. PRICE:

20 Q. And is there a possibility
21 that that heightened discussion would
22 lead to a different decision as to
23 whether or not to implant the Prolift
24 device in Darla Flowers?

25 MS. METZGER: Object to

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1 form. Calls for speculation as to
2 what Ms. Flowers would have
3 decided.

4 THE WITNESS: I think it's
5 hard to say what she would have
6 decided. I would have to agree
7 that I have no idea what she would
8 have decided. It's possible that
9 she may have been willing to
10 accept the risk. I don't know.

11 BY MR. PRICE:

12 Q. Fair enough. But you can
13 say that you know today that you would
14 have spent more time talking about the
15 risk of complication?

16 A. Yes.

17 MS. METZGER: Object to
18 form.

19 THE WITNESS: Yes.

20 BY MR. PRICE:

21 Q. And it's also fair to say
22 that you would have spent much more time
23 discussing the degree of problems
24 associated with her prolapse decisions so
25 that you could weigh those against those

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1 heightened risks that we've discussed
2 about today?

3 MS. METZGER: Object to
4 form.

5 THE WITNESS: Yes.

6 MR. PRICE: That's all I
7 have. Thank you, Doctor. I may
8 have some more questions after
9 defense finishes, but it's now her
10 turn.

11 CROSS-EXAMINATION

12 BY MS. METZGER:

13 Q. Good afternoon, Doctor.

14 A. Good afternoon.

15 Q. My name is Kim Metzger. I
16 represent Johnson & Johnson and Ethicon
17 in this lawsuit, and we met for the first
18 time today; is that correct?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. You did not meet Mr. Price
21 for the first time today, though, right?

22 A. Correct.

23 Q. When did you first meet with
24 Mr. Price?

25 A. Yesterday.

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1 Q. Can you tell me about that
2 meeting, please.

3 A. He wanted to meet with me
4 yesterday just to familiarize me with
5 what this was going to be like and -- you
6 know, I had not seen the chart for six
7 years -- so I could review the chart.

8 Q. How long did you meet with
9 Mr. Price yesterday?

10 A. An hour maybe.

11 Q. And had you spoken with him
12 or anybody from his office on the
13 telephone before meeting with him
14 yesterday?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. And how many times did you
17 speak with Mr. Price on the phone or
18 someone from his office?

19 A. I think I initially talked
20 with his paralegal to set up a date. I
21 think her name is Brandi.

22 THE WITNESS: Is that right?

23 MR. PRICE: Yeah. Actually,
24 that's right.

25 THE WITNESS: And I think I

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1 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

2 Sorry.

3 THE WITNESS: Yes.

4 BY MS. METZGER:

5 Q. You met with Mr. Price for
6 an hour, and did he do more than show you
7 the charts and the medical records?

8 A. He asked me some of the same
9 questions that he asked me today.

10 Q. Did he ask you how you were
11 going to answer those questions?

12 A. No.

13 Q. What questions do you recall
14 that he asked you today that he also
15 asked you yesterday? You can do it in
16 terms of general subject matter, that
17 sort of thing first, and we'll see if we
18 need to go deeper.

19 A. I mean, basically, he kind
20 of went through the whole outline of what
21 he was going to ask me.

22 Q. So he took your deposition
23 in advance of the deposition?

24 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

25 THE WITNESS: Not in as much

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1 Q. -- but not --

2 A. No, I did not see the office
3 chart yesterday. I just saw the -- it
4 was actually from the surgery center. It
5 wasn't from the hospital.

6 Q. Okay. So he showed you the
7 surgery center records --

8 A. Right.

9 Q. -- but not your chart?

10 A. Correct.

11 Q. Okay. Did he show you any
12 other documents yesterday?

13 A. Let's see. He showed me a
14 study from -- I don't remember the
15 author. You know, the study from the
16 "Green Journal."

17 MR. PRICE: The Iglesia?

18 THE WITNESS: The Iglesia
19 study, yeah.

20 BY MS. METZGER:

21 Q. Was that the -- do you
22 remember what year? There were a couple
23 studies.

24 A. 2010.

25 Q. Did you see the follow-up

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1 study by Sokol as well?

2 A. That's the only one he
3 showed me.

4 Q. Okay. So he showed you the
5 Iglesia study and what else?

6 A. I'm trying to remember what
7 all else there was. Let's see. I think
8 I saw the -- the information about my
9 training for the first time today.

10 He said he had a copy of my
11 certificate, but I didn't see it.

12 THE WITNESS: I went through
13 my CME file and I couldn't find my
14 copy of it, so if you have a
15 chance, if you could mail me a
16 copy, I'd appreciate it, and I
17 could put it in my CME file.

18 MR. PRICE: I'd have to see
19 if the defense is agreeable to
20 doing it.

21 THE WITNESS: Yeah.

22 MR. PRICE: It's really more
23 theirs than it is mine.

24 MS. METZGER: It's your
25 certificate. It's fine with me if

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1 A. It didn't make me go
2 (indicating).

3 Q. Did it change your -- did it
4 change your prescribing practices or your
5 consenting practices at all?

6 A. I talked a little bit more
7 about erosion rates.

8 Q. About erosion?

9 A. But I had been ever since
10 that 2008 FDA bulletin came out, so I
11 don't think that it changed it as much as
12 the FDA bulletin did.

13 Q. Any other documents that
14 Mr. Price showed you when he met with you
15 yesterday? Did he show you any company
16 documents from Johnson & Johnson or
17 Ethicon?

18 A. Well, he had me sign the
19 confidentiality agreement. I'm trying to
20 remember what all.

21 Q. Well, let me ask you a
22 different question. Did he show you any
23 documents yesterday that we didn't look
24 at here at the deposition today?

25 A. No.

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1 Q. Did he leave any of those
2 documents with you?

3 A. The only thing he left with
4 me was the Iglesia study.

5 Q. Did you look at any other
6 medical literature, discuss any other
7 medical literature, with Mr. Price
8 yesterday?

9 A. No.

10 Q. There were some comments
11 that were made in the first part of the
12 deposition about things that you had
13 heard for the first time when you spoke
14 with Mr. Price yesterday.

15 Can you refresh me about
16 what some of those things that you heard
17 for the first time from Mr. Price
18 yesterday were?

19 A. We've gone through an awful
20 lot of things. Would you like to refresh
21 me about what you are --

22 Q. Okay. Sure.

23 A. -- discussing?

24 Q. We can go back through that.
25 I remember, for example, I believe you

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1 testified that you heard for the first
2 time yesterday that -- something about
3 the FDA regulatory process and the letter
4 from Bryan Lisa or to Bryan Lisa from the
5 FDA. You had seen that for the first
6 time yesterday and heard about that for
7 the first time yesterday; is that
8 correct?

9 A. The one asking for the 522
10 studies?

11 Q. No. About the 510(k)
12 application.

13 A. Oh, okay. That was the
14 first time I had seen that, yes.

15 Q. Was it your opinion that
16 your discussion with Mr. Price yesterday
17 was intended to skew you one way or
18 another about the integrity of the
19 product?

20 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

21 BY MS. METZGER:

22 Q. And by that, I mean the
23 Prolift product.

24 A. Well, I'm sure that you know
25 that doctors are always nervous around

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1 A. I know how that works.

2 Q. But I didn't get to meet
3 with you alone yesterday.

4 A. I understand that.

5 Q. That's the difference.

6 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

7 BY MS. METZGER:

8 Q. Anything else about the
9 meeting with Mr. Price yesterday? You
10 didn't keep any notes or records of that?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Was anybody else present?

13 A. My wife was in the house,
14 but she went in the bedroom, so she
15 wasn't privy to the discussion.

16 Q. That was my next question.
17 Did he meet with you in your home?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Okay. What time of day was
20 that?

21 A. He got there right around
22 3:00 and I think you left at, what, 4:15
23 or something like that?

24 Q. Okay. Anything else about
25 the conversation that you had with

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1 lawyers. You've heard that before, I'm
2 sure.

3 Q. And lawyers around doctors.
4 That white-coat hypertension.

5 A. You know, I understand the
6 way this works, and I know that
7 everybody's always looking out for their
8 client's own best interest. I try to be
9 objective.

10 Q. Was it your impression that
11 there was any sort of a deliberate
12 attempt on Mr. Price's part yesterday to
13 skew you toward testimony one way or
14 another today?

15 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

16 THE WITNESS: I understood
17 priorities.

18 BY MS. METZGER:

19 Q. What do you mean by that?

20 A. I -- I know who he's working
21 for.

22 Q. All right. Anything else --

23 A. As well as I know who you're
24 working for.

25 Q. Okay.

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1 getting the medical device approved for
2 marketing in the United States?

3 A. No.

4 Q. Do you know what the 510(k)
5 process is?

6 A. Well, just from what I've
7 learned here in the past two days --

8 Q. But you --

9 A. -- which isn't much.

10 Q. So you don't claim any
11 particular expertise --

12 A. No.

13 Q. -- on how the Prolift may or
14 may not have been approved at any point
15 in its regulatory history, correct?

16 A. Well, I'm gathering from the
17 letter in 2008, it was approved by its
18 similarity to just flat pieces of mesh.

19 Q. But apart from -- apart from
20 that, do you have any specialized --

21 A. No.

22 Q. -- knowledge of the approval
23 process --

24 A. No.

25 Q. -- for --

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1 I need to get a clean
2 question out.

3 Do you have any specialized
4 knowledge or any particular personal
5 knowledge of how the Prolift device
6 proceeded through the regulatory process
7 with the FDA?

8 A. Not previous knowledge, no.

9 Q. Okay. So just what you've
10 learned in the past couple days?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. And you're aware -- I
13 believe when we looked at the IFU, we
14 looked at the component parts for the
15 Prolift device, correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. And you're aware that the
18 Prolift kit contains a precut piece of
19 Gynemesh PS, polypropylene mesh; is that
20 correct?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. And together with a set of
23 surgical instruments; is that right?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. The Gynemesh PS

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1 A. She told me she was a
2 half-a-pack-a-day smoker. It was
3 recorded in my notes.

4 Q. That was the source of the
5 information, was --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- from Mrs. Flowers --

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. -- is that correct?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. And you knew at the time
12 that you performed the Prolift surgery on
13 Mrs. Flowers in July of 2007 that smoking
14 was a factor -- potential factor in poor
15 wound healing; is that correct?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. I assume you would have
18 imparted that information to
19 Mrs. Flowers?

20 A. I don't know that we
21 discussed it in particular, no.

22 Q. Going back, just to close
23 the loop on this FDA issue, this is
24 Exhibit Number -- Plaintiff's Exhibit
25 Number 14, and I'm looking at the --

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1 looks like the third page of that
2 exhibit. It's the May 15th letter from
3 the FDA to Bryan Lisa at Ethicon, Inc.

4 Is this one of the document
5 that Mr. Price showed you when he met
6 with you yesterday?

7 A. I think so, yes.

8 Q. Did Mr. Price show you any
9 of the documents that may have preceded
10 that particular letter from FDA to
11 Mr. Lisa?

12 A. I think this is the only
13 one. I don't remember any others.

14 Q. Do you know what, if any,
15 were the status of the negotiations or
16 the discussions about Prolift between FDA
17 and Ethicon as of the date you performed
18 Mrs. Flowers' surgery?

19 A. No.

20 Q. You don't have any context
21 in which to place this letter from
22 Mr. Lisa -- or to Mr. Lisa from FDA; is
23 that correct?

24 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

25 THE WITNESS: No.

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1 BY MS. METZGER:

2 Q. Let me ask you a different
3 way. Do you have any context for this
4 letter dated May 15th, 2008, from the FDA
5 to Mr. Lisa, apart from the letter
6 itself?

7 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

8 THE WITNESS: No.

9 BY MS. METZGER:

10 Q. So you don't know what was
11 going on before and what happened
12 afterward?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Doctor, do you think it's
15 fair to show you a single letter and a
16 snapshot in time as to what was going on,
17 on May 15th of 2008, and not give you any
18 information about what may or may not
19 have been going on beforehand and ask you
20 to make a judgment about the integrity of
21 this product?

22 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

23 THE WITNESS: It's always
24 good to have context.

25 * * *

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1 BY MS. METZGER:

2 Q. Okay. You weren't given
3 that context, were you?

4 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

5 THE WITNESS: No.

6 BY MS. METZGER:

7 Q. The FDA doesn't regulate the
8 practice of medicine, does it?

9 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

10 THE WITNESS: It doesn't
11 regulate the practice of medicine,
12 no.

13 BY MS. METZGER:

14 Q. So, for example, if you have
15 Gynemesh PS soft mesh that's available to
16 you, we've already established that that
17 was approved for use. That's a product
18 that was available to you, and you could
19 use it as you wished for the indications
20 for pelvic organ prolapse treatment; is
21 that correct?

22 MR. PRICE: Object to form.

23 THE WITNESS: Yes.

24 BY MS. METZGER:

25 Q. And when you performed the

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1 BY MR. PRICE:

2 Q. Including -- another
3 difference is the tools that come with
4 the Prolift kit as well, correct?

5 MS. METZGER: Object to
6 form.

7 THE WITNESS: Yes.

8 BY MR. PRICE:

9 Q. Now, let's back up a moment
10 to what you said about the -- the
11 Gynemesh being the same mesh.

12 Because the Gynemesh had
13 been on the market since 2002, if Ethicon
14 was in the position to have some data on
15 the erosion rates of the Gynemesh, would
16 you have liked to know about those in
17 2007?

18 MS. METZGER: Object to
19 form.

20 THE WITNESS: Yes.

21 BY MR. PRICE:

22 Q. And if Ethicon had some data
23 on the severity and rate of the
24 complications that they had seen from the
25 Gynemesh material, would you have liked

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1 to have seen that in the instructions for
2 use --

3 MS. METZGER: Object.

4 BY MR. PRICE:

5 Q. -- with the Prolift kit?

6 MS. METZGER: Object to
7 form.

8 THE WITNESS: Yes.

9 BY MR. PRICE:

10 Q. And if Ethicon had reports
11 from the field of life-altering
12 complications in patients, is that
13 something you'd like to know in 2007?

14 MS. METZGER: Object to
15 form.

16 THE WITNESS: Yes.

17 BY MR. PRICE:

18 Q. Is it fair to say that any
19 data that Ethicon had received, based on
20 the usage of the Gynemesh mesh in the
21 field, you would have considered that
22 data when you were implanting a Prolift?

23 MS. METZGER: Object to
24 form.

25 THE WITNESS: Yes.